

Message Text

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73 S

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 DEAE-00

CIAE-00 INR-11 IO-14 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-04

TRSE-00 USIA-15 SCI-06 OMB-01 L-03 AID-20 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /141 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6043

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7250

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJ: TURK POPPY CONTROLS

1. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION OF CYPRUS RELATED MATTERS IN OUR LATE EVENING MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, FORMIN GUNES TURNED TO SUBJECT OF OPIUM POPPY CONTROL. HE SAID, "I HAVE GOOD NEWS," AND THEN REPORTED THAT THERE WILL BE A SPECIALLY CALLED CABINET MEETING TOMORROW (SEPT 12) AT WHICH HE AND THE PRIME MINISTER WILL RECOMMEND THAT TURKEY ADOPT STRAW PROCESSING FOR 100 PERCENT OF ITS POPPY CULTIVATION. THIS MEANS THAT NO REPEAT NO INCISING FOR OPIUM GUM WILL BE PERMITTED ANYWHERE IN TURKEY AND THAT THE SYSTEM WHICH BOTH SIR HARRY GREENFIELD AND I HAD URGED UPON GOT WOULD BE ADOPTED. HE SAID THIS WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO ALL OF GOT'S OTHER CONTROL PROCEDURES (PATTERNED ON THOSE OF 1972).

2. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE POPPY STRAW PROCESS WOULD BE INAUGURATED THE FIRST YEAR OF PLANTING, EVEN THROUGH THIS MEANT THAT "FOR A YEAR OR TWO" ALL THE STRAW WOULD HAVE TO BE EXPORTED FOR PROCESSING. IN THE MEANTIME THE GOT WOULD BE TALKING TO AMERICAN AND OTHER PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES ABOUT THE CON-

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STRUCTION OF A DOMESTIC STRAW PROCESSING PLANT.

3. GUNES WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE STRAW PROCESSING PROPOSAL WOULD PREVAIL IN TOMORROW'S CABINET MEETING. HE AND THE PRIMIN HAD ALREADY TALKED TO THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (A KEY FIGURE BOTH WITH RESPECT TO THIS SUBJECT AND IN THE OTHER PARTY IN ECEVIT'S COALITION) AND HE HAS PROMISED HIS SUPPORT.

4. I EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR WHAT THE FONMIN HAD TOLD ME AND SAID THAT I CONSIDERED THIS A CRITICALLY IMPORTANT STEP IN ACHIEVING INTERNATIONAL CONFIDENCE IN THE NEW TURKISH CONTROL SYSTEM.

MACOMBER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, DRUG CONTROL, OPIUM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ANKARA07250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740254-0060
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740953/aaaabszk.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURK POPPY CONTROLS
TAGS: SNAR, EAGR, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005